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1907, containing also a list of reviews of Professor Maitland's works and miscellaneous works referring to Maitland.

A. A. P.

Great American Lawyers. A History of the Legal Profession in America. Edited by William Draper Lewis. Philadelphia. The John C. Winston Company. 3 vols.

This work, which when completed will consist of eight volumes, is designed to present a history of the profession in the United States as embodied in the essence of numerous biographies. Ninety-six names have been selected for treatment and five is the largest number of contributions by any one author. Many, doubtless, will quarrel with the inclusions and omissions but the work can not fail to prove entertaining to all who are either desirous of learning what different types of men have achieved success in American court-rooms from the days of Patrick Henry to the time of James C. Carter, or interested in tracing the changes which came about in the methods of legal instruction between the time when John Marshall listened to the lectures of Chancellor Wythe and the death of Professor Thayer.

The contributions themselves are written in different styles and are of varying merits. One is Mr. Joseph Choate's oration on Rufus Choate. Some are in the nature of impressionistic sketches based on standard biographies; others, as for example Chief Justice Baldwin's biography of Roger Sherman Baldwin, are careful and authoritative accounts drawn from original sources. The value of the work consists not so much in the essays on the leaders of the bar as in the fact that it presents in convenient and accessible form, what are not otherwise easily obtainable, biographies of those lawyers whose names, perhaps, are little known but whose work is sound and lasting. Taken as a whole these volumes are worthy of a place in the library of any lawyer or layman who cares for the traditions which cluster about, or the names which have adorned, the American bar.

W. P. A.

Handbook of the Law of Private Corporations. By Wm. L. Clark, Jr. Second Edition, Edited by Francis B. Tiffany. St. Paul, Minn. West Publishing Co. 1907. pp. xv. 721.

Mr. Clark, author also of the Hornbooks on "Criminal Law," "Criminal Procedure" and "Contracts," prepared the first edition

of his work on "Private Corporations" in 1897. That edition, it will be remembered, devoted much attention to the "Effect of Irregular Incorporation"—"Corporations De Facto" and "Estoppel to Deny Corporate Existence;" "Subscriptions to Stock Prior to Incorporation;" "Watered Stock;" and the "Trust Fund Doctrine" as applied to capital stock and assets which was held in many cases but which Mr. Clark showed had been exploded by the more recent decisions. Mr. Tiffany in preparing this second edition of the work has added many of the cases, decided during the last ten years, to the notes, and has altered the text where it was necessary to do so to make the edition a present day authority. The same treatment of subject has been retained and the text has been left as it was as far as practicable. We find the work in its present edition a convenient handbook on the general propositions of the law of corporations.

H. T. S.

Mining, Mineral and Geological Law. By Charles A. Shamel, M. S., LL. B., A. M., Ph. D. New York. Hill Publishing Company 1908. pp. xxx, 576.

The general plan of this book is very excellent for a concise work of its kind, as it treats the subject from the double standpoint of law and science. The book is no doubt intended as a medium between the more elaborate works on the subject and the small manuals of mining law and forms. If this is its purpose, it has been admirably fulfilled. But as a treatise on the subject of mining law from the viewpoint of a practicing lawyer, the book falls far short of what it ought to be. There is a very valuable appendix containing the changes in and additions to the State statutes by the various legislatures in 1907, and the revision of the Land Office Rules and Regulations made in the same year.

K. G.

The American Constitution. Frederic Jesup Stimson. New York. Charles Scribner & Sons. 1908. Cloth. pp. 258.

This work of Professor Stimson, of Harvard University, consists of eight lectures delivered at the Lowell Institute in the fall of 1907. The author has put into the hands of students of constitutional history and law a valuable volume. Free from the technical phrases heretofore apparently thought necessary to a work of this character and which prove so worrisome to the layman, it should be of especial value to him. The author of "American Statute Law" needs no introduction to members of the legal profession. His last work, though doubtless primarily for the academic library, should find a place on the library shelves of him who considers a knowledge of his country's constitution worth while.

W. V. G.